

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A swab, comprising:  
a handle defining a longitudinal axis, the handle being elongated and having  
5 a cleaning head end and a grasping end, the cleaning head end defining a securing  
region; and  
a cleaning tip, the cleaning tip being formed from a plurality of fibers  
formed by pulling the fibers through a die compressing the fibers into a  
substantially rigid, elongated cleaning head, the cleaning head being secured to the  
10 handle at the cleaning head end, the handle and cleaning tip defining a longitudinal  
axis.
2. The swab in accordance with claim 1 wherein the cleaning tip is  
formed from polyester fibers.
- 15 3. The swab in accordance with claim 1 wherein the cleaning tip is  
secured to the handle by friction-fit.
4. The swab in accordance with claim 1 wherein the cleaning tip is  
20 secured to the handle by heat.
5. The swab in accordance with claim 1 wherein the cleaning tip is  
secured to the handle by an adhesive.
- 25 6. The swab in accordance with claim 1 wherein the cleaning tip is  
secured to the handle by ultrasonic welding.

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7. The swab in accordance with claim 1 wherein the handle is a hollow tubular member defining a central bore and the cleaning tip formed having a shape and a dimension for inserting into the handle bore.

5 8. The swab in accordance with claim 1 including a tether secured to the handle grasping end.

9. The swab in accordance with claim 8 wherein an end of the tether is inserted into the handle bore.

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10. The swab in accordance with claim 1 including a grip portion mounted externally of the handle.

11. The swab in accordance with claim 10 including a tether mounted to  
15 the swab at the grip portion.

*Sub A 1* 12. > ~~The swab in accordance with claim 11 wherein a portion of the  
tether is disposed between the grip portion and the handle.~~

20 13. The swab in accordance with claim 8 wherein the tether is permanently mounted to the handle.

14. The swab in accordance with claim 8 wherein the tether is removably mounted to the handle.

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